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## COMMENT OF THE DAY

### Canal Decision

THE decision of the British government, and other major users of the Suez Canal, to permit their ships to use the Canal, for all practical purposes brings to an end a dispute which started ten months ago with Egypt's nationalisation of the Suez Canal Company and climaxed by the Anglo-French military operation against Port Said and the northern area of the waterway. The decision also tacitly implies that Egypt has won recognition of her right to sovereignty over and administration of the Canal.

It was made plain last week, when the Suez Canal Users' Association failed to agree to a continued boycott of the canal, that most of the countries in Europe chiefly affected by the dispute, would decide to resume the canal route. The French government at the moment is holding to its ban on using the waterway, but it is unlikely it can continue to deprive French shipping owners of their discretionary rights. The realities of the new situation can be expected to force the French government into revocation of existing orders.

PUBLIC reaction to Mr Macmillan's House of Commons statement is bound to vary. But the rank and file will probably be more inclined to applaud than to castigate. An indefinite boycott of the canal appeared to offer little or no chance of forcing President Nasser into more tractable state of mind; indeed the Egyptian leader holds such a strong hand, the highest card of which is actual possession of the canal, that only a few diehards have clung to the conviction that he could be made to bow to the demands of the major users of the waterway.

It is true eight Conservative MPs have "revolted", have described the government's decision to allow British ships to use the canal as capitulation and appeasement. Nevertheless the "revolt" is unlikely to win a wide measure of public approval; nor is the government expected to be unduly embarrassed by the defection of a few of its members. Opposition criticism in the House yesterday was lukewarm. Generally speaking the government's decision appeared to be regarded as sensible in the light of events.

MR Macmillan's answer to those who complain that the British government has wholly surrendered its position over the future of the canal is that the decision to resume use of the waterway does not imply agreement with the Egyptian memorandum on the subject recently deposited with the United Nations.

In fact, however, the Egyptian proposals, though not fully conforming to the six principles laid down by the United Nations for a settlement of the dispute, are not wholly unacceptable. The main point of controversy is around the question of insulating control of the canal from national politics and policies.

What now remains to be seen is whether President Nasser, with the canal once again being fully utilised by international shipping, will display any willingness to negotiate an agreement providing guarantees against exploitation of the canal as a weapon of national policies. On this issue the Egyptian leader has to face world opinion. It is conceded that Egypt possesses certain rights regarding future operations of the canal, but she cannot be allowed to endow herself with the power to employ discrimination against shipping or to possess a position where she can hold the canal in pawn as a domestic waterway.

# CONSERVATIVE MP's IN REVOLT

## Protest Against Government's Suez Decision

London, May 13.

Eight members quit the British Conservative Parliamentary Party tonight in protest against the Government's announcement earlier in the day that British ships could again use the Suez Canal.

Mr Harold Macmillan, the Prime Minister, had told an almost silent House of Commons that payment of Canal dues by British ships would be made to Egypt in sterling through a special account at the Bank of England.



LORD HINCHINBROOKE (one of the rebels)

### MP's Statement: CAPITULATION TO NASSER

THE joint statement issued by the revolting MPs said: "The Government have announced their capitulation to Nasser."

"This is one more episode in a long series of retreats that started with the Labour Government's weakness at the time of the Suez Canal crisis."

"Throughout the most recent series of retreats we have tried to persuade the Government to stand firm."

"We have urged it to stand by its principles, adopted by the UN Security Council on October 13, 1956, and accepted by Nasser."

"By refusing the Canal to Israeli shipping, Nasser has already broken his latest pledge to abide by the 1956 Convention and reversed his acceptance of the six principles."

"It is folly to nurture his pride when it has been shaken by his failure to swallow Jordan."

"We believe that the British people, not only in these islands, are deeply anxious that Britain should take a lead."

"Even though all the alternatives are unpleasant, their final surrender to Nasser will be interpreted by the people of Britain and by the friends of Britain overseas as a sign both of material weakness and, far worse, of a decaying will."

"If this betrayal be accepted, we have the surrender of Cyprus."

About 18 Conservative critics of this policy held a private meeting afterwards and subsequently eight of them announced their decision to quit the Conservative ranks in the Commons. They dubbed the Government's action a "capitulation to Nasser" and declared that "appeasement only leads to disaster."

The eight are Lord Hinchinbrooke, Sir Victor Bulwer-Luthly, Mr Patrick Maitland, Mr Angus Maude, Mr John Biggs-Davison, Mr Lawrence Turner, Mr Anthony Fell and Mr Paul Williams.

### SEPARATE LETTERS

They first wrote separate letters to the Government's chief Whip, Mr Edward Heath, saying they would no longer accept the Whip (voting orders).

Then they gave the reasons for their action in a joint public statement.

It was the biggest Conservative Party "revolt" in the House since the end of the Second World War, but did not jeopardise the Government's comfortable majority of about 60.

The eight said they wished to be known as "Independent Conservatives" and would "remain Conservatives in general support of Conservative policies in relation to home affairs."

They made it plain that in the Commons Suez debate on Wednesday and Thursday they would abstain from voting on anything in the nature of a motion of confidence in the proposals announced by Mr Macmillan today.

But they would not go into the voting lobby with the Opposition Labour Party. They also had no intention of resigning their Parliamentary seats.

### OTHER ABSTENTIONS

Political quarters said it was possible that some of the other 10 Conservative MPs at tonight's protest meeting of the "Suez group" would also abstain from voting at the close of the debate.

The Government, however, could survive abstentions by all 18 members in a vote. Later Lord Russell of Liverpool followed in the House of Lords, saying he strongly disapproved of the Government's decision regarding use of the Suez Canal by British ships without making a condition "that the ships of all nations must be allowed free and innocent passage."

### Truck Explodes

Rio de Janeiro, May 13. Ten people were killed and some 20 others were seriously injured today when a petrol truck exploded in the centre of Salvador Bahia, Brazil. The truck overturned and then caught fire and exploded, killing and injuring passers-by. —France-Press.

## NAVAL TASK FORCE DEFENCE

London, May 13.

THE self-contained task forces which would form the future British Navy, would be deployed in the most advantageous way around the world, but concentrate at any given point should the need arise, Mr Christopher Soames, Parliamentary Secretary to the Admiralty, said today.

He told the House of Commons this in asking for £316 million to cover the cost of the Navy until March 3, 1958.

The task forces would each consist of a carrier armed with nuclear-age planes and weapons, a cruiser, destroyers and frigates. Mr Soames said there were many "territories" where British military power would be welcomed in time of trouble, but which did not wish to have permanent state forces billeted upon them.

Declaring that it would be a great mistake to underestimate the value of destroyers and frigates in peace time, Mr Soames said considerable areas of seas were openly made safe for British shipping by the presence of such ships.

### PIRACY IN EAST

There was still a good deal of piracy in Eastern waters, "Our vessels based on Hongkong have a good deal of work to do in that respect," he said. Mr Soames said Russia had "the biggest submarine fleet the world has ever known and her construction programme is still in full swing."

He believed that by 1960 Russia would be able to deploy continuously some 150 submarines in the Atlantic alone. She already had 500 submarines in commission, considerably more than half long-range. More than two-thirds of them had been constructed since the war.

Britain's defence plans in global war rested on a system of alliances, he said. —China Mail Special.

## Duke Of Gloucester Tipped For Merdeka Day

London, May 13.

The Duke of Gloucester was being freely predicted among informed quarters here today as the chosen representative of Queen Elizabeth to attend the Malaya Independence ceremony on August 31 this year.

There was no official confirmation of these forecasts, which, however, were not officially discouraged.

Malayan quarters said the choice of Gloucester would cause some disappointment in Malaya. It was hoped, they said, that Queen Elizabeth's sister, Princess Margaret, would go to Malaya for Merdeka Day.

This hope received no encouragement from officials who also ruled out the possibility that the Duchess of Kent or Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother, might attend the independence day ceremony. —United Press.

## GERMAN A-ARMS DECISION SAVED LONDON TALKS

Hamburg, May 13.

Dr Konrad Adenauer, the West German Chancellor, told the Congress of the Christian Democratic Party today that his government would have destroyed the chances of success of the London disarmament conference if it had announced a decision not to arm the Bundeswehr with atomic weapons.

## FAURE FOR HONGKONG



Paris, May 13. Former Radical Socialist Prime Minister M. Edgar Faure left here by air today aboard an Air France plane for Karachi and Hongkong en route for Communist China where he is to make a private visit at the invitation of the Chinese Institute of Foreign Affairs.

M. Faure, who is accompanied by Madame Faure, expects to spend three or four weeks in China.

He also hopes to make a brief visit to Japan before returning to France in the middle of June. —France-Press.

## Labour Party Pay Dispute Denied

London, May 13.

The chief Labour Whip (party manager) in the House of Commons tonight categorically denied reports that a group of party members had written to him threatening not to serve on parliamentary standing committees unless their salaries were raised.

The Whip, Mr Herbert Bowden, referred in a statement to a "large number" of press reports that he had received such a communique from between 20 and 100 Labour MPs.

He added that he felt it right "to say categorically that I have received no such statement."

"Moreover, the manner of standing committees is proceeding normally and any suggestion to the contrary is untrue."

"It is true that a number of members in all quarters of the House are profoundly concerned about the delay in dealing with what they regard as their legitimate claims for an adequate Parliamentary salary."

"The suggestion, however, that members should not carry out their Parliamentary duties in all their aspects could not be countenanced." —Router.

## ANGLO-EGYPTIAN TRADE TALKS WILL OPEN SOON

Cairo, May 13.

An Egyptian Finance Ministry spokesman said today in a statement following British talks with the Government on Suez Canal tolls: "It is expected that Anglo-Egyptian trade talks will take place very soon."

The Finance Ministry spokesman announced that talks had been concluded between the delegates of Britain, Egypt and Switzerland, regarding the regulation of tolls payable by British ships using the Canal.

"The talks have resulted in the British Government lifting on from today all restrictions imposed on sterling transactions between Egypt and Britain in connection with the new sterling account."

"The British Government has promised it will not infringe Egypt's freedom to use this account whatever the circumstances may be."

"The British Government has also promised to release from Egypt's sterling balance account the necessary sums to cover contracts and allocations which had been previously approved and concluded in sterling before the imposition of restrictions on the use of these assets on July 27, 1956." —Router.

## MISSING PLANE FOUND

Vancouver, May 13. Wreckage from a Trans-Canada Airlines North Star aircraft missing since last December 9 with 62 persons aboard was found in the mountains 50 miles from here, an Air-line spokesman said today.

No bodies were found. Search for the plane had been postponed during the winter because of heavy snows and low-hanging clouds over the mountains where the plane disappeared while on a flight from Vancouver to Winnipeg.

A spokesman said the wreckage was found yesterday by a group of mountain climbers.

The plane ran into a snowstorm over the mountains and the pilot requested permission to return. Shortly afterwards, the plane slipped from radar screens and vanished in Canada's worst air disaster. —United Press.

## Thermometer Drops To 98 Below

Milwaukee, May 13. A new world record for cold may have been set recently at the South Pole when thermometer dropped to 68 degrees below zero Fahrenheit, it was learned today.

An amateur radio operator last Friday picked up a message from the American detachment at the South Pole, announcing the record cold spell.

The official world record for cold is 90 degrees below zero set on February 3, 1922 at Verkhovansk, Siberia. A temperature of 108 degrees below zero was also registered in Siberia, but it was never made official. —France-Press.

## Israel To Test Nasser

Jerusalem, Israel, May 13.

Israel is likely to send a test ship through the Suez Canal in the near future and will regard any interference with it as an act of war, an Israeli Foreign Ministry spokesman said tonight.

Asked what Israel would do in the event of such interference, he said he did not think her reaction would be to complain to the International Court at The Hague.

He said Israel had hitherto delayed such a move in a desire not to prejudice the negotiations of the Suez Canal Users' Association in London.

"Now Israel feels free to make the test," the spokesman added.

He disclosed that talks were being conducted in Paris with the French Government regarding Israel's intention to erect an Israeli merchant vessel flying the Israeli flag through the Canal.

Asked whether a definite date had been set for the test, the spokesman refused to comment except to say "it is not likely within the next week."

The spokesman said the Government of Israel regards the sending of an Israeli ship through the Canal as important for two reasons:

★ 1. The use of Suez was of major importance to Israel's economy.

★ 2. There was no other possible test of President Nasser's intentions or of Egypt's adherence to international obligations. —Router.

## CRIPPLED PLANE LANDS SAFELY

New York, May 13. A Pan American World Airways plane en route from San Juan, Puerto Rico, to New York with 104 persons aboard landed safely at Bermuda after losing power in one engine in flight, the Coast Guard announced here.

A Coast Guard plane out of Bermuda met the crippled airliner and escorted it to a landing. The plane sent a signal stating that it was in no immediate danger but had been forced to feather one propeller because of engine trouble.

It jettisoned fuel over Bermuda before landing, the Coast Guard reported. —United Press.

## CLOUDBURST SHATTERS TEXAS TOWN

Lampasas, Texas, May 13.

Soldiers were brought in tonight to help dazed residents police this flood-shattered town and clear the debris from 60 to 70 square blocks that a 10-foot wall of water ravished last night.

The bodies of four drowned persons were recovered. Two other persons were missing. Eight were injured. State Police Captain E. K. Browning said damage could easily total \$1,500,000 to \$2,000,000. Unofficial estimates put damage at five million.

The full picture of the disaster emerged hours after the flood when Sulphur Creek, which makes an elbow through Lampasas, started using the town itself for a course in the middle of a cloudburst. It literally swept away houses.

Residents sat tonight in the streets, against telephone poles and on the highway. One home was dropped into the middle of US Highway 281, the main road to San Antonio. The railway station, which is 120 feet long, was lifted, turned about and dropped.

The Red Cross with 400 homes were destroyed or damaged. The Red Cross had 600 persons tonight in a shelter set up in the First Baptist Church. Other residents moved in with friends or relatives who live in a section of Lampasas which has a population of 7,700—that is in the hills. —United Press.

## Boat Detained

Stockholm, May 13. A Swedish fishing boat, with a crew of two, has been seized by the Soviet authorities and its master was detained for unlawful fishing in Soviet waters outside Rostov-on-Don, the Swedish Foreign Office announced here today. —Router.

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# BRITISH DEFENCE FORCES

## LEAGUE ACCUSED OF 'HUMBURG OF MOST OBSCENE KIND'

London, May 13.

Lord Altrincham accused the Victoria League for Empire Friendship today of "humburg of the most obscene and squalid kind" regarding coloured Commonwealth students in new arrangements at its club in West London.

Lord Altrincham, 32-year-old Etonian and editor of a conservative monthly review, resigned from two league committees last March because he alleged a colour bar was being operated at the club in Leicester Square, West London.

In a statement issued today he declared that the league had taken up new surprising defensive position and he caused his counsel to resign.

"Last Friday evening Admiral Sir Cecil Harcourt, Chairman of the Victoria League, visited the Club and announced to its inmates that in September or thereabouts the Club would become multi-racial—but for women only.

### EXCLUDED

"Hitherto it has been for both sexes, but coloured students have been excluded.

"This change cannot be welcomed—indeed it must be severely condemned—because it indicates no change of heart in the Central Council.

"On the contrary it is based upon the same odious and fantastic theory that inspired the previous policy of discrimination—the theory that men and women who are differentiated only by the colour of their skins, cannot be trusted to sleep under the same roof, unless they are herded into separate wings.

### SUGGESTION

"Since the Leicester Square premises have been thought suitable for white students of both sexes, any such suggestion being taken, the suggestion is that coloured students are more promiscuous and less controlled in their habits than

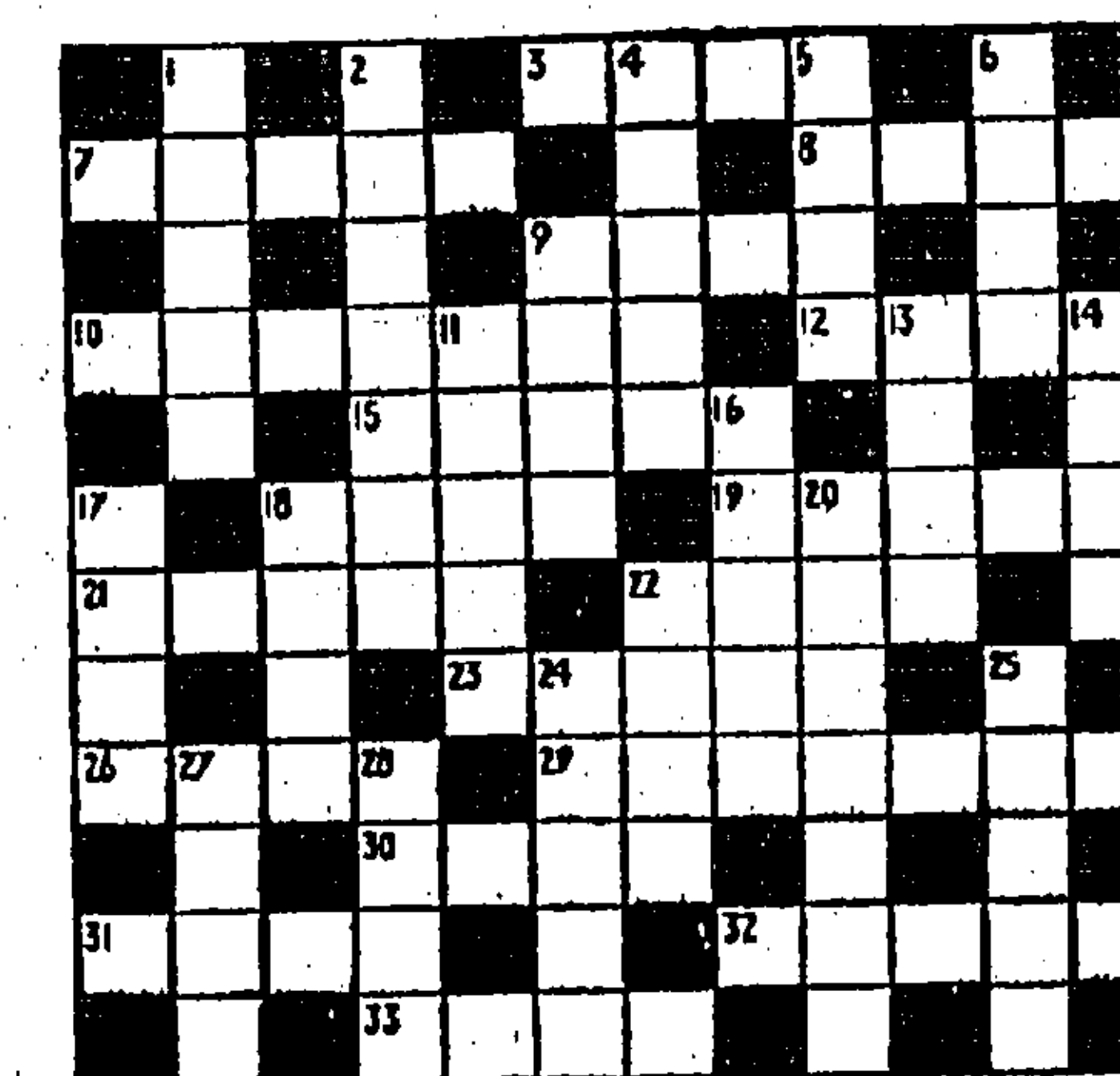
## Teacher On Spy Charge

Tel Aviv, May 13.

Jacob Weiss, Director of an English school in Jerusalem, has been tried for spying for Syria, it was learned here today.

Informed sources said that Weiss was of the Jewish faith. The trial was held in secret and no indication has been given of the exact nature of the espionage charges, but it was stated that documents found in Turkey, where Weiss stayed recently, proved his guilt.

## A British Crossword Puzzle



- ACROSS**
- Grew old (4).
  - Ward off (5).
  - Highest point (4).
  - Sawing meeting (4).
  - Finley (7).
  - Wan (4).
  - Military bodies (5).
  - River of Germany (4).
  - Fellers (5).
  - Become mature (5).
  - Concoct (4).
  - Bud (4).
  - Abandoned (7).
  - Mimicked (4).
  - Bill of fare (4).
  - Dapper (5).
  - Rush (4).
- DOWN**
- Dodge (5).
  - Introduction (7).
  - Welcome (5).
  - Moment (4).
  - Report (4).
  - Commotion (4).
  - Concerning (5).
  - Declare (4).
  - Comfort (4).
  - Ancestors (5).
  - Boast (4).
  - Valuable? It's a mere nothing, buddy (4).
  - Cuts back at a price (7).
  - Raised (4).
  - Notions (5).
  - Tale (5).
  - Accustomed (4).
  - Prize (4).

**MONDAY'S CROSSWORD.**—Across: 1 Place, 7 Owl, 9 Rhyme, 10 Final, 11 Vile, 12 Dolomite, 13 Near, 14 Owl, 15 Dependent, 23 Fair, 24 Force, 25 Irate, 26 Mate, 27 Dreads. Down: 2 Loyal, 3 Clean, 4 Defeat, 5 Conquered, 6 Full, 8 Hail, 12 Earth, 13 Dopey, 14 Intertied, 17 Pilot, 18 Spread, 20 No-I-Do, 21 Blank, 22 Aids.

## CHESSMAN LODGES APPEAL

Washington, May 13. Carl Chessman, who for nine years has been in the condemned cell at San Quentin Prison (California) under a death sentence for kidnapping and attempted rape, today lodged a final appeal with the United States Supreme Court.

Chessman has written two best-sellers since he was imprisoned, and has obtained several days of execution.—France-Press.

Paris, May 13. Special teams of experts will be sent from Algeria to Tunisia to fight a grasshopper invasion threatening the harvest there, it was announced here today.

The announcement said that aid would be given to Tunisia at the request of the Tunisian authorities despite Algeria's own needs.—France-Press.

## GENERALS SEE BRITISH ARTILLERY



Annual field artillery demonstration of Britain's School of Artillery at Salisbury was held last week. Two visitors at the demonstration were General Don Emilio Alaman, Spanish Director of Military Training, and General Hayashi, Chairman of the Japanese Joint Staff Council. Picture left shows the two visitors with General Sir George Erskine, chief of the British Army Southern Command. Picture right shows a dummy "Corporal" guided missile, now being brought into use by the British Army.—Express photo.

## JAPAN TO STEER INDEPENDENT COURSE IN UN

New York, May 13.

Mr Koto Matsudaira, Japan's new permanent representative at the United Nations, presented his credentials today to the Secretary-General, Mr Dag Hammarskjöld accompanied by Mr Hideo Kitahara, who has been Charge d'Affaires since Mr Toshikazu Kase, Mr Matsudaira's predecessor, returned to Tokyo.

At an informal press conference after the credentials ceremony, Mr Matsudaira said his delegation's task in the United Nations would be to exercise a moral and moderating influence when "dangerous tensions" appeared.

In this way, Japan could make its biggest contribution to the world organisation, which she joined last December—the said.

### ASPIRATIONS

Mr Matsudaira indicated that Japan would steer an independent course from the powerful Afro-Asian group when its interests were required.

He noted that Japan was geographically in the group and had "certain common interests" with the other members.

Also, it understood to some extent "their desires and aspirations."

Questions about his plans for the delegation, Mr Matsudaira said he hoped to bring in new staff to bring it up to the strength required for an important power.

He would go to Tokyo next month for consultations on this and other questions.

On the question of Japan's efforts to halt nuclear tests, Matsudaira said consideration was being given to the possibility of introducing a resolution on the issue at the next General Assembly, due to convene on September 17.

He declined to express an opinion on Communist China's admission to the United Nations, but he said that Communism still remained "a serious threat" to Asia.—Reuter.

Singapore, May 13. Communist China is making a strong bid to get Indonesia and the Federation of Malaya from the Singapore fish market, according to trade circles here.

Official statistics show that China has traded her fish exports to this colony since 1955. The trade circles said that the Chinese fish was "popular" because the price was low. Chinese population of Singapore last year was 2,100,000.

## Hayashi Says 'Absolutely First Class'

By CHUJO WATANABE

London, May 13.

Lieut-General Keizo Hayashi, Chairman of the Japanese Defence Forces Joint Staff Council said today that the British defence forces were absolutely first rate both in the quality of arms and the high degree of the training of the troops.

General Hayashi summed up the impression of his visit to this country to inspect military installations at a press conference in London this evening.

He said he was greatly impressed by the members of the British defence forces with whom he came in contact.

Although they were very modest in their attitudes they displayed strong conviction and firmness which was a quality he thought the members of the Japanese defence forces should try to develop.

### Discussions

He said he had discussed the new defence white-paper with British leaders and he was impressed by the fact that although Britain put a great deal of store in her traditions, she was ready to make big changes in her defence policies with great conviction when the necessity arose.

General Hayashi said he had seen many of the latest arms this country had produced, including guided missiles. There was no plan in the immediate future for Japan to buy any of these. The Japanese defence force was trying to reach the status of self-sufficiency in arms production and everything he had seen on this trip would be useful in making plans for the future.

### Attitude

General Hayashi is leaving England on May 16 and will visit France, West Germany, Switzerland and Italy on the way home. He said he was interested in studying the attitude of these countries towards Nato.

He said that although Japan's position was different from Nato countries inasmuch as Japan had a constitution preventing her from sending troops overseas, in the present-day world, no one nation was capable of defending herself alone and it was useful for Japan to study how she could co-operate with other nations in defence matters.

Lastly, General Hayashi said that although Japan and England had been at war he did not even once experience any unpleasantness and everybody had been extremely courteous and friendly to him.—Reuter.

## FINANCIER SEES NASSER

Cairo, May 13.

Financier Ahmed Mohamed Abou el-Khair, Chairman of the Egyptian "Rockefeller" who is to leave shortly for the United States conferred for an hour today with Egyptian President Gamal Abdel Nasser.

While no details of the talks were disclosed, informed quarters said considerable importance was attached to the question of Egyptian assets which were frozen at the time of the nationalisation of the Suez Canal last July, and also the financing of the construction of the Aswan Dam on the Nile.—France-Press.

Unconfirmed reports said that Abou el-Khair would discuss the question of Egyptian assets which were frozen at the time of the nationalisation of the Suez Canal last July, and also the financing of the construction of the Aswan Dam on the Nile.—France-Press.

The conference would be inaugurated by India's deputy statesman Mr C. Rajagopalachari and attended among others by two ministers of the Communist Government of Kerala State—Law Minister Y. R. Krishna Ayyar and Education Minister Joseph Menon.

Mr Rajagopalachari said the Government would prepare the ground for effective methods of bringing pressure on the nuclear powers to stop test explosions.

Reuter.

## Lloyd To Remain In Office?

London, May 13.

Immediately after the Prime Minister's statement on Monday, Viscount Lambton resigned as Parliamentary private secretary to Mr Selwyn Lloyd, the Foreign Secretary.

Lord Lambton's move was, it is understood, purely a personal one and not connected with the Suez Group.

In his unpaid post the young MP has been very close to Mr Lloyd.

He accompanied him to the Security Council debate on Suez, last October.

At Westminster, he has been known as an outspoken supporter of Sir Anthony Eden's policy of intervention in Suez. Lord Lambton's resignation raised in acute form the position of Mr Lloyd as Foreign Secretary.

Those Tories who on Monday night know of the developments were questioning if the Foreign Secretary himself could long remain in office, now that the policy he had supported has been as utterly rejected.—London Express Service.

## STIFF BATTLE AHEAD FOR MOLLET

Paris, May 13.

M. Guy Mollet, the French Prime Minister, faces a stiff battle in the new session of Parliament opening today over the "austerity" programme he says is necessary to defend the franc and press ahead with the campaign against the Algerian insurgents.

Political observers here said that the odds were still slightly in favour of the Prime Minister, who has been authorised by the Cabinet to seek votes of confidence as many times as he thinks fit in the drive for swift Parliamentary action.

M. Mollet, who with 15 months of office behind him has survived the turmoil of French politics longer than any other administration since the liberation, enters the fray with the backing of the overwhelming majority of his Socialist Party.

This backing was expressed in a resolution of the Socialist National Council in favour of the Government's policy of "pacification and reform" in Algeria.

Before the National Assembly (Lower House) reassembles today, M. Mollet is due to preside over a meeting of the Cabinet called to settle details of how the Government intends to raise 150,000 million francs in new taxation to supplement 250,000 million francs in economies in the 1957 budget already agreed among his ministers.

M. Mollet aims to secure assembly approval for his "austerity" measures in the fastest possible time, and in any case before President Coty leaves for an official visit to the United States at the end of the month.—China Mail Special.

## ANTI-TEST PLAN BY COUNCIL

New Delhi, May 13.

"A concrete plan of action" to mobilise public opinion against nuclear weapons tests would be drawn up at an All-India National Convention for Peace to be held at Bangalore on May 24, Mr V. Parameswari, secretary of the All-India Peace Council which has organised the Convention told reporters at Ernakulam today.

He said the plan would also aim at strengthening the hands of the Indian Government in its efforts to bring about an agreement among nuclear powers for stopping nuclear test explosions.

Reuter.

## AMERICA SPEEDS UP SATELLITE PROGRAMME

Washington, May 13.

Defence Secretary Charles E. Wilson today ordered missile czar William M. Holladay to take charge of the programme for launching an earth satellite during the 18 months starting on July 1.

Wilson's action was seen as an effort to speed up the programme and to hold down costs. The programme has been under Navy management with all three branches of the armed services and civilian agencies participating.

The Navy still will manage the project, with Holladay acting as general overseer.

Wilson also ordered Holladay to "exercise specific co-ordination" over a number of guided missiles previously out of his direct control. Among them was the Army's Redstone ballistic missile.

### Lagging

There have been reports that the earth satellite programme was lagging. At one time authorities spoke confidently of launching the man-made moon this summer or at least by early autumn. But some kinds have developed in the complicated project.

Russia also is working on a satellite project. Some American rocket enthusiasts feel the US must win the race as a matter of prestige.

The US satellite is supposed to be launched during the International Geophysical Year which runs 18 months starting on July 1.

The cost of the project originally was estimated at about \$20,000,000. But Wilson has told congressional committees that the original estimates will be exceeded.

In fact, the Defence Department already has put about \$57,000,000 into the programme.

### 'Priority'

In putting the satellite programme under Holladay, Wilson emphasised that it will not be given the "priority" set aside for development of an intercontinental ballistic missile and an intermediate range ballistic missile.

Until now Holladay, specifically has been in charge of overseeing the Atlas and Titan intercontinental ballistic missiles.

## Writers On 'Study Tour' Of Britain

London, May 13.

Four Japanese scientific writers now on a "study tour" of Britain, visited an Instruments, Electronics and Automation Exhibition here today.

Tomorrow they will spend the day at Britain's famous Harwell Atomic Energy Research establishment.

The Japanese visitors, who are on a month's tour at the invitation of the British Government, are Professor Noriyuki Sakikawa, assistant professor of the Tokyo Institute of Technology; Mr Yuji Isobe, Foreign Editor of the Tokyo Shimbun; Mr Seki Watanabe, leader writer on Scientific and Atomic Energy subjects for Asahi; and Mr Kyoze Ise, a member of the Foreign News Section and Atomic Energy Problem Study Group of the Yomiuri Shimbun.—Reuter.

M. Mollet aims to secure assembly approval for his "austerity" measures in the fastest possible time, and in any case before President Coty leaves for an official visit to the United States at the end of the month.—China Mail Special.

## CONCENTRATION OF STRONTIUM 90 NOT DANGEROUS

London, May 13.

The Minister of Agriculture, Mr Derick Heathcoat-Amory, said today that tests in Britain for signs of strontium 90 showed that the highest concentration, so far observed did not show signs approaching the limit which might cause anxiety about possible harm to the health of animals or humans.

Mr Heathcoat-Amory, who was replying to a question in the House of Commons, said the tests were continuing.

### UPLAND AREA

Mr Heathcoat-Amory said the higher concentration had been observed on the upland areas where there was a high rainfall and a low concentration of calcium in the soil.

Earlier, the Minister, who was replying to questions, said that in 1954-55 tests to trace the incidence of strontium were carried out by the Atomic Energy Research establishment on samples of soil and herbage from Suffolk and Wales. These disclosed the presence of small quantities of strontium 90 with slightly higher concentration in Wales.

In 1956, sampling areas were chosen, of which two were on high ground in Wales and two in England.

### DANGER POINT

Mr Heathcoat-Amory said he was not sure of the exact percentage but tests had revealed that the amount of strontium 90 found on the high levels was still "consistently below the danger point."

Sir Peter Agnew, Conservative MP for an area where deposits of strontium were not so great as to warn all visitors from going to Wales during the holiday season.

The Minister replied: "As an example, I am hoping to visit Wales during the summer holiday."—China Mail Special.



## CHINESE POPULATION AND AGRICULTURE

## How many rice bowls and how much rice?

by Richard Harris B.B.C.

CHINA'S Communist leaders have always been realistic—at least over internal affairs. Sometimes they will hammer away with their theories for a long time, but in the end they usually face whatever facts there are, and in the last few weeks they have been facing the rock-bottom facts of China today.

What are these facts? They are quite simple. China wants to become industrialised, but China is an agricultural country. Therefore China must have an agricultural surplus to export so she can buy capital goods from the Russians and others. But—and this is the equation that must be balanced—China also has a larger population than any other country.

Five years ago if you had suggested to the Chinese that their task was going to be rather difficult because of their big population they would have produced the objection aside and told you that Communism can take care of any numbers. Now, the return to realism is obvious from recent statements in Peking. The change probably began when the census of 1953 produced the first accurate answer to the question of how many Chinese there really were—582 million.

That must have shaken them in Peking, though the result of the shaking was not immediately apparent. But in the following year realism began to creep in when one of the members of the People's Congress suggested that perhaps birth control might help, and it wasn't long afterwards that birth control clinics were being opened all over China, but still we were told that this was only to help women in spacing their children—talk of keeping down the population was dismissed.

## BIRTH CONTROL

## official policy

Now, in 1957, that attitude has gone. Birth control is now the official policy and there is hardly any attempt to hide the reason—the equation isn't going to balance. There are too many mouths to feed and if they go on increasing at the

present rate there won't be any surplus to export. China will not be able to earn the money to pay for imports. Here are the figures. There were 582 million on the mainland in the 1953 census. The annual net increase is somewhat over two percent, which means somewhere between 12 and 13 million more Chinese every year. So the total population of China must now be in the region of 630 million. If the same percentage increase were to continue, in five years' time the Chinese would number 700 million, in ten years time China would have a population of close on 800 million.

## MORE FOOD

## but no surplus

How are they going to be fed? The answer is that they can be fed with the increased rate of food production that China has kept up during the past five years, but quite clearly there isn't going to be a surplus. So the facts that China is facing are the simple and fundamental ones of increasing agricultural production and seeing that the number of mouths to be fed doesn't grow so fast that the increase isn't immediately swallowed up. There must be a surplus. That is why birth control has been officially introduced and why abortion and sterilisation—as

subsidiary measures—have been legalised.

Slowing down the population increase tackles one side of the problem; the other is growing more crops. A new campaign for this has begun too. There was a large agricultural exhibition in Peking a few weeks ago and a conference of model agricultural workers was urged to produce a bumper harvest in 1957. Teng Tzu-hui, the Communist director of agricultural policy, explained how important it was if the rate of China's industrialisation was not to be slowed down.

## BAD LUCK

## in two bad years

Of course we must remember that China has had rather bad luck since 1949. There have only been two really good years; floods and drought and pests have ruined crops in all the other years and 1954 and 1956 were two of the worst years—that is to say two bad years out of the three since the census revealed how big the problem was.

This appeal was straightforward and factual and urged the use of scientific method, but the peasants may find that co-operative farms may not be so scientific. We shall know more about that after next autumn's harvest. But there is one other way in which China is going about this business of population and food. One of the biggest migrations in history is being directed by the Government to the next under-populated regions of the north-east and north-west of China. The drive to the north-east—or Manchuria as we still call it—has been going on for more than a century. Now the Government is shifting thousands of families way up to

Helungkiang province, where the Amur river bends round to form the frontier between China and Russia.

The drive to the northwest means even harder work as most of the land in Kansu, Chinghai and Sinkiang needs irrigation before it can take people, and besides, there are different nomad peoples living in these parts who may not take kindly to the newcomers. Still, it is going on and it is going to continue for the next 20 years. Over one million people have already moved and that is only the beginning. It will mean new homes and new crops and less crowding on the land in the crowded plains of North China.

It is an obvious way of alleviating the problem but it may bring fresh problems with the indigenous peoples of Sinkiang or Inner Mongolia. It will mean also that the long frontier between China and Russia will be filled right up—on the Chinese side, though it is not likely to be filled on the Russian side. It isn't into Southeast Asia that China is expanding at the moment, but northwards and westwards into the open spaces of Central Asia and the Russian border.

## Russia puts out the Red carpet for holidaymakers

They'll even subsidise your spending money—to allow you to buy beer at 8s. a bottle

by PETER CHAMBERS

VLADIMIR SMIRNOV, the smiling, 38-year-old London agent of Russia's Intourist Bureau, speaks English with an effort. But Mr Smirnov got his message across to me.

"Come to Russia," he said. "We want many, many British tourists in the U.S.S.R." A 13-day tour of Russia would cost me about £125, everything—hotels, meals, excursions and transport 16 and from London—included. This is the basic price of a third class tour, and relative to the distance covered it is cheap. Not only that, the Russian government would actually pay me £22 5s. a day "pocket money" for every day I spent in the U.S.S.R.

"You will need the money," said Mr Smirnov, who is a Moscow University graduate in economics. "We have so many more roubles in Russia..." This seemed a mixed-up Moscow way of explaining a familiar economic fact—that the Russian rouble is pegged at about four times its real value in sterling. The big deterrent to holidays in Russia has always been this artificial exchange rate. It means that a bottle of beer costs you 8s. in Russia instead of 2s.

Yet the Russian government—for the first time in nearly 20 years—is making an effort to attract British tourists in 1957. Under the new dispensation every British visitor to Russia, rich or poor, will be paid £2 5s. a day for the duration of his stay. It is meant to cover the cost of cigarettes, postcards, souvenirs—even the odd bottle of 8s. beer.

Other subsidies have been arranged. There are half-price rail fares from the frontier to the start of the tour, and free rail travel thereafter. "We are building new hotels and restaurants," beamed Mr Smirnov—he is, significantly, the first Intourist agent to be appointed to London since 1953. "Soon, it is said, you will be able to drive into Russia in your own car."

The Intourist Bureau is promoting its Come to Russia drive by Press advertising and brochures, like any capitalist organisation. A 40-page booklet tells you Where to Go. A bumper issue of the Russian Embassy newspaper, Soviet Weekly, carries a blindingly black and white advertisement and five pages of stories and pictures.

Times have changed indeed. In 1956 not a single Intourist visa was refused. Now Britons are offered hard roubles and free transport as well. How successful has the Come to Russia campaign been? "Since we started advertising in the British Press in January,

I have had 100 to 150 letters a day," said Mr Smirnov. This sounds promising, but after inquiries around the London travel agencies I report disappointing results for Intourist. I find only one small agency and a shipping line are actually booking tours to Russia. In Berkeley Street, Britain's biggest travel agency told me: "We tried inclusive tours to Russia last year. Oh yes, we had many inquiries. But actual bookings were so poor that we are not doing it this year."

I went to see Mr George Cross, manager of the travel agency which handles virtually all the Intourist business. He said: "The Russians are definitely keen to get British holiday-makers. We started doing tours in 1955 and this will be our best year yet. Last year we took out a Conservative Parliamentary candidate. He enjoyed himself—made dates with some Russian girls."

STRICT PLANNING In actual figures, this agency booked 300 British tourists to Russia last year. This year the figure will be nearer 500. At the price, the figure is still very poor. Why, despite all inducements, are Intourist holidays not catching on? The reasons are very Russian. You can forget, if you are going to Russia, any Bohemian nonsense about stopping off at some little wayside inn which takes your fancy. Intourist holidays are organised as a Five Year Plan. All hotel bookings must be made in advance. You get vouchers for your meals, and they come in different colours to show which class you belong to and how many meals you are entitled to.

The class structure is elaborate. You have the De Luxe tour, the Superior tour, then the 1st, 2nd and 3rd-class tours. These Soviet class distinctions are much too puzzling for the British travel agents, who in practice only book De Luxe, Superior and 3rd.

Nearly all the British travel 3rd, sleeping two or three to a room and travelling in charabanc groups of 30. The De Luxe tour, at a whopping £10 15s. a day exclusive of travel, enables you to travel alone in a chauffeur-driven car.

NOT FOR ME The whole thing is so tightly organised that you do not get your visa in London until you have booked your meals in Russia. Mr Smirnov was such a friendly Russian I forbore to tell him that this was my idea of a purgatorial holiday. Yes, I do want to go to Russia. But not on the voucher system. Not to that.

WASHINGTON. Britain's interests may be neglected in Africa, Asia, and other outlandish parts, but I can tell you one thing—here in America we are colonising the States all over again.

Let me just give you an idea of the sort of thing that's going on now.

## Those films

ITEM: The extent to which British films have captured United States TV is nothing short of sensational.

One major network alone runs 50 different programmes every week which feature only British films and are shown coast-to-coast. "Gilbert and Sullivan," "The Sound Barrier," H. G. Wells's novels like "The History of Mr Polly," "Gracie Fields in 'We're Going to be Rich,'" and so forth.

Richard Greene's "Robin Hood" has been serialising for donkeys' years and is still enormously popular.

So is another series called "Sir Lancelot," which is about

King Arthur's knights. As I flick my set on an evening I'm confronted with "Fabian of the Yard," "Sherlock Holmes," and "The Scarlet Pimpernel."

## That whisky

ITEM: Scotch whisky, long popular in the Eastern States, has lately begun startling invasions of hitherto impenetrable fortresses in the "South" and "West" country of the South and West.

## Those planes

ITEM: My old friend Gerry Wian, chief public relations counsellor for British Overseas Airways in New York, tells me that B.O.A.C. carries far and away more passengers from the United States and Canada to London than any other airline.

## That tonic

ITEM: One man who has had a very big hand in popularising British goods—and, hence, indirectly, Britain herself—is a

Washington, Scotland, shrewdly imaginative David Ogilvy.

Ogilvy heads a New York advertising concern and it was he who came up some years ago with the wildly original and successful idea (which has since had countless imitations) of the man with the black typewriter to advertise shirts.

Lately Ogilvy has done it again for Schweppes. He introduced to America a tall, good-looking Englishman named Commander Whitehead, who sports a beard of W. G. Grace's dimensions as "barrier" for Schweppes—and believe me Whitehead has been barking to good effect. He is heard and seen regularly on radio and TV and has a most pleasing personality.

So successful has it all been that a famous American beer concern with a name not unlike Schweppes has paid Whitehead and Ogilvy the supreme compliment of imitating their advertising slogans.

Well, if and when the Queen does come over to visit Jamestown, she will find that more than just Virginia has been colonised by the British—the whole country is in a fair way to join us.

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Well, if and when the Queen does come over to visit Jamestown, she will find that more than just Virginia has been colonised















# CHINA MAIL

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# 'Little America' Down Under AUSTRALIA'S POPULATION RECEIVES BOOST FROM IMMIGRATION

By JAMES SHRIMPTON

Melbourne, May 13.

With a powerful boost from immigration, Australia's population is rising rapidly towards the 10 million mark. In 25 years, the Department of Immigration predicts, 20 million people will live in this island continent, 32 times the size of the United Kingdom.

About 1,150,000 immigrants have landed in Australia since the World War II, roughly half of them from Britain and two-thirds of the remainder from Italy, the Netherlands, Poland, Germany and Greece.

Of the Britons, approximately half have travelled the 12,000 miles to Australia under an assisted-passages scheme at a cost, to many, of less than a week's wages.

For £10 sterling, one-twelfth of the cheapest unassisted passage by sea, a qualified Briton can start a new life in a country of higher pay, higher prices, greater opportunities and sunnier skies — with a dash of homesickness thrown in.

How he leaves his two-story semi-detached British home for a white-painted weatherboard bungalow in Australia is explained by Australia's Immigration Minister, Mr Athol Townley.

## Odds Favourite

Replying recently to a newspaper report that it is "apparently harder for Billy Brown of Leeds to get here than it was for Giuseppe Giotto of Naples," Mr Townley said: "Billy is an odds favourite against Giuseppe in the immigration stakes, and Australia's money is on Billy."

Billy has three ways of emigrating to Australia, with the Australian people paying more than £100 sterling of his £120 sterling fare, and only about £10 sterling to pay himself. They are:

1. He may be sponsored by anyone in Australia who can provide suitable accommodation for him;
2. He may be sponsored by an employer who can offer suitable accommodation; and
3. He can be nominated by the Commonwealth of Australia itself if his occupation is one of those listed by the Department of Labour and National Service for this purpose.

Billy could also, of course, pay his full fare himself, and emigrate to Australia at any time by sea or air.

## Accommodation

Accommodation is a stumbling block for many otherwise "good-type, would-be immigrants" from Britain, Mr Townley said. "They want to come here and we want them, but there is no room for them in the British immigrant hotels."

To solve the problem, the Australian Government has launched a "bring-out-a-Briton" campaign. Local government bodies, community organisations, churches and public-minded citizens are to be canvassed to form committees who will find accommodation and employment vacancies and so help increase the proportion of Britons among the nation's immigration intake.

Meanwhile, Giuseppe Giotto, from Naples, finds it more difficult to get here. To obtain an assisted passage, he must be on the Department of Labour and National Service's list of tradesmen or workers in real demand. Australia then pays about £40 sterling towards his fare, leaving him, his government and the Inter-governmental Committee for Europe on Migration to pay the rest.

Even if he is willing to pay his full fare, Giuseppe cannot immigrate to Australia unless he has been sponsored here by an Italian who has proved to the government that "Giuseppe is a close, dependent relative." This restriction was imposed, Mr Townley explained, when it appeared that the intake of southern Europeans "could get out of proportion in our balanced, planned immigration programme."

## Reception Centre

When Billy Brown of Leeds, his wife and two children land in Australia from a liner, they are taken to a reception centre and thence to the immigrants'

hostel nearest to Billy's new place of employment.

The hostel is a little self-contained town of long, army-type huts, each divided into small furnished rooms. Bed linen and towels are supplied free, and there are special huts for bathing and laundering.

Three meals a day are provided, and Billy gets a packed lunch of sandwiches to take to work.

The Hostels are run by Commonwealth Hostel Ltd., a firm which manages itself but is attached to the Government. Its charges vary according to the basic wage of each immigrant.

Basic wages for a 40-hour working week vary from state to state, but all start around the £12 Australian mark. If Billy is a bricklayer in Sydney, his wage is A£19.34 a week. If he is a shipyard worker, he gets A£10.8 a week. Earnings are dictated by machinery paid for skill in various industries, and by overtime.

There are free cinemas and recreation huts in the hostel "town," and a child-minding centre for the smaller children can be used for about £10 sterling a week. Immigrants use medical and education ser-

vices outside the hostels. Free English language instruction is provided for alien immigrants.

Billy will probably save for the day when he can afford to make a cash payment towards a house of his own. Immigrants are encouraged to do this, but some find the hostel accommodation so suitable that they stay for many years. Some buy motorcars and radiograms.

## Responsibility

"We can't turn these people out of the hostels," a spokesman explained, "but we now get immigrants to sign an undertaking that they will try to find other accommodation within two years. It at least makes them aware of the responsibility."

The rough-and-ready hostel life brings its problems but a team of social service workers is on hand to deal with inquiries or complaints. If Billy, or any other assisted immigrant, is dissatisfied with his new life, he has to wait for two years before he can return to Britain, or pay the balance of his outward voyage to the government as well as his homeward passage to the shipping company. — China Mail Special.

## Mountie Meets Pikeman



Colourful uniforms were the rule at a Mansion House reception the other day when the Lord Mayor of London (centre) was host to the detachment of Royal Canadian Mounted Police now visiting Britain. The Canadian Officer Commanding is seen shaking hands with the Captain of the Company of Pikemen and Musicians of the Honourable Artillery Company. — Central Press Photo.

## JORDANIAN SHAKE-UP

Amman, May 13.  
The Jordanian Government today ordered a major shuffle of key military, diplomatic and civilian administrative appointments including the replacement of Jordan's Embassy staff in Cairo.

The Cairo Embassy staff, including the Ambassador, Fawzi el Mulki, have been recalled to Amman. The new Ambassador to Egypt will be Abdul Munim Rifal, Jordanian United States Ambassador and UN delegate. Mr Mulki is expected to take over the Washington embassy. — Reuters.

# SOUTH AFRICA TO OBSERVE US SATELLITES

Pretoria, May 13.

Observation of geophysical phenomena and of the behaviour of artificial satellites in orbit is to be the main contribution of the Union of South Africa to the International Geophysical Year, which will last from July 1957 to December 1958.

New techniques developed during the past 20 years, particularly for studying the ionosphere and the meteorology of the upper atmosphere have produced great advances in the various branches of this study.

But the only hope of a better understanding of the complex inter-relationships between geophysical phenomena, especially those which are directly or indirectly due to the sun's activity, is by observing them simultaneously in many parts of the world.

One reason why the "year" is to last in fact for 18 months is to enable observations to be carried right through a period when the sun's activity will be at or near its maximum. In other words, at a time when sun spots (the outbursts on the sun known as solar flares) and other solar disturbances will be frequent.

South Africa's total estimated expenditure on geophysical research for the years 1956-57 will be £275,000, including £131,000 on normal departmental activities co-ordinated with the International Geophysical Year programme.

## Primary Orbits

South Africa is expected to be able to make an important contribution to the observation of the behaviour of the artificial earth satellites which it is hoped to launch from Patrick Air Force Base in Florida into orbits between 200 miles and 1,500 miles above the earth.

The satellites will have to pass first in their primary orbits over South Africa and three teams of reliable observers will keep a constant lookout.

The Royal Observatory at Cape Town, the Union Obser-

vatory in Johannesburg, the Hartebeest Observatorium at Pretoria, the Astronomical Society of Southern Africa, the National Telecommunications Research Laboratory of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, and the Amateur Radio League of South Africa will all take part in observation, and in addition, teams of amateur astronomers using low power telescopes will watch the artificial satellites in the form of aluminium spheres 20 inches in diameter which will contain search instruments and small telemetering transmitters for relaying information back to earth to help scientists from nearly 40 nations in the most detailed examination ever undertaken of the physical forces affecting the earth.

The scientific effort will include studies of ocean currents, tidal forces, the earth's magnetic field, sunspot activity, the radio reflecting layers in the upper atmosphere, cosmic radiation, micro-meteorites and other long-debated problems.

Dr Karl Henize, of the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory in the United States, who has been given the responsibility of setting up and operating the various tracking centres throughout the world, said during a visit here recently that the technique of launching the satellite with high altitude, three-stage rockets has now been perfected.

The length of time that any one satellite is expected to remain in its orbit circling the earth at a speed of about 18,000 miles an hour, will depend on the height of its closest approach, he explained. The period may range between one month and one year.

## Broad Coverage

The significance of the satellite for the International Geophysical year is that most of the present knowledge of the "exosphere" is based on indirect observations. Rockets can provide direct measurements but they are short-lived and restricted in atmospheric coverage. The satellites, on the other hand, are expected to remain a long time in orbit, with repeated revolutions about the earth giving broad coverage.

Precise determination of the orbit of the satellite from observations made from the ground stations can yield important information. Very little, for example, is known about the density of the upper atmosphere. From the geometry of the satellite and observations of its flight, especially its deceleration near the end of the flight, calculations can be made of the air density.

Careful observations of the orbit and its perturbations caused by variations in the gravitational field will make it possible to calculate the mass-distribution in the earth. This should yield information about the composition of the earth's crust.

## Shape of Earth

These observations should also increase present knowledge of the shape of the earth and contribute to improved determinations of longitude and latitude.

It is also hoped that instruments installed in the satellite will record observations on temperature, pressure, meteoric particles, solar ultra-violet and X-radiation and cosmic rays, which will be transmitted to earth by radio.

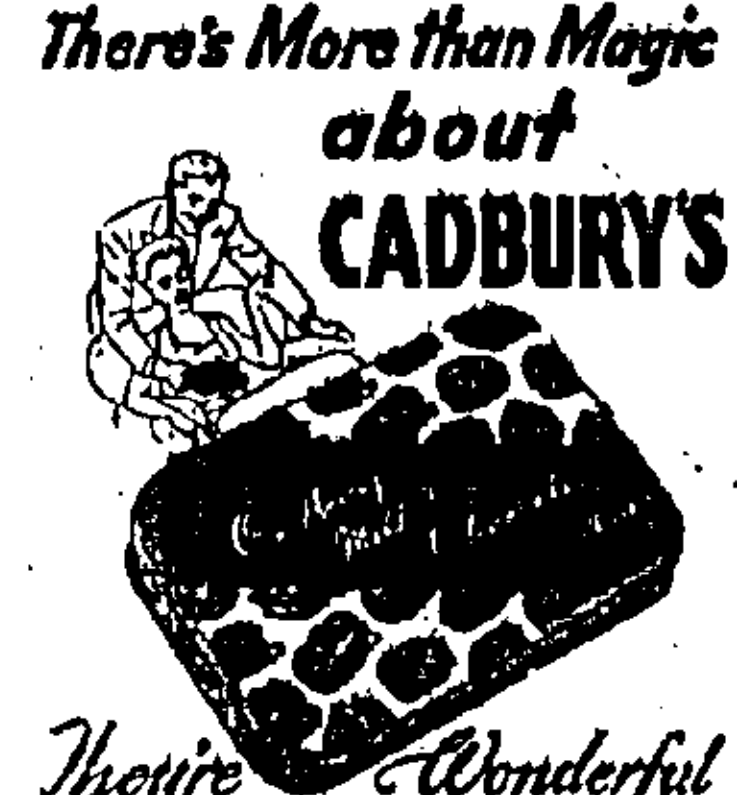
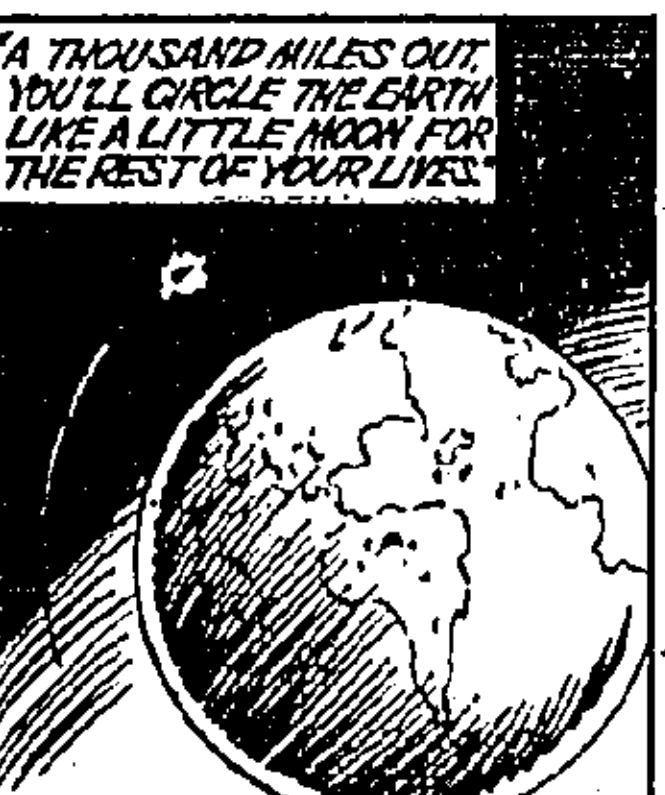
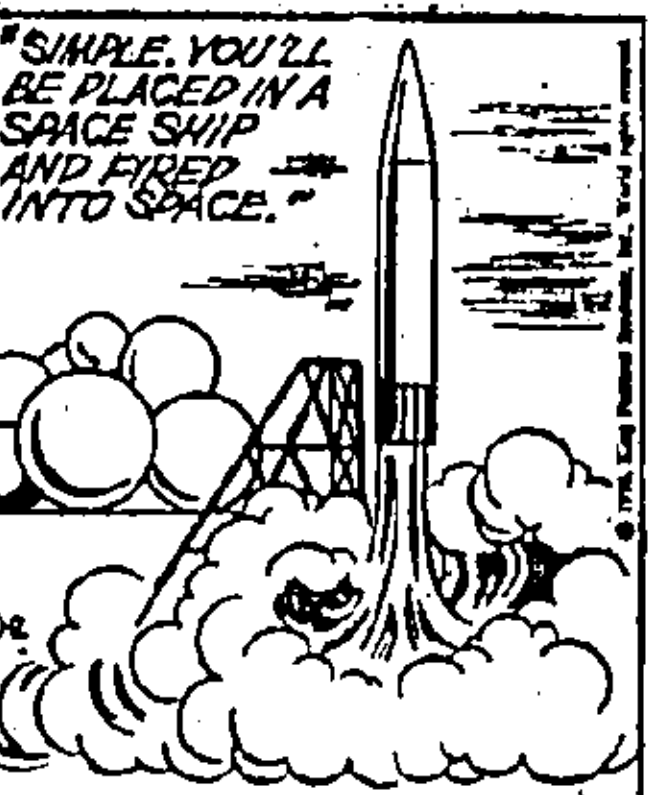
Special radio stations will be set up in the countries over which the satellites travel to record their signals, and photographic "tracking" by means of graphic stations mounted on stationary cameras will try to record their actual passage. Time, an important factor, will be known to ten thousandths of a second by the use of crystal clocks associated with the Schmidt cameras.

The final stages of the satellite's life, during its last spiral descent to earth will be most important, according to Dr Henize, who added that they will be best recorded by visual observation.

A few teams of observers in South Africa have already been chosen and planned ahead. Dr Henize declared that many more volunteers are needed for what may be a long, tedious, monotonous and even arduous task. — China Mail Special.

## MANDRAKE THE MAGICIAN

By Lee Falk and Phil Davis



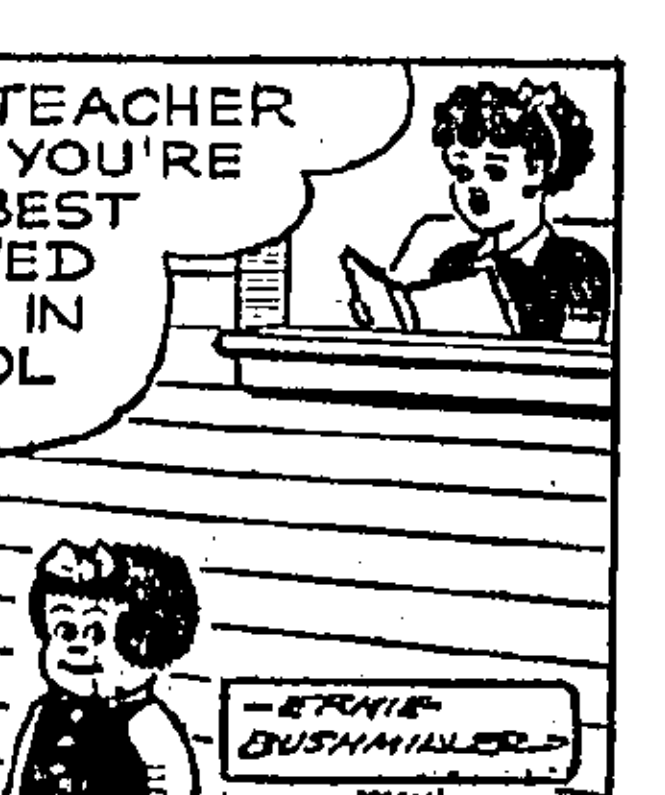
## FERD'NAND

By Mik



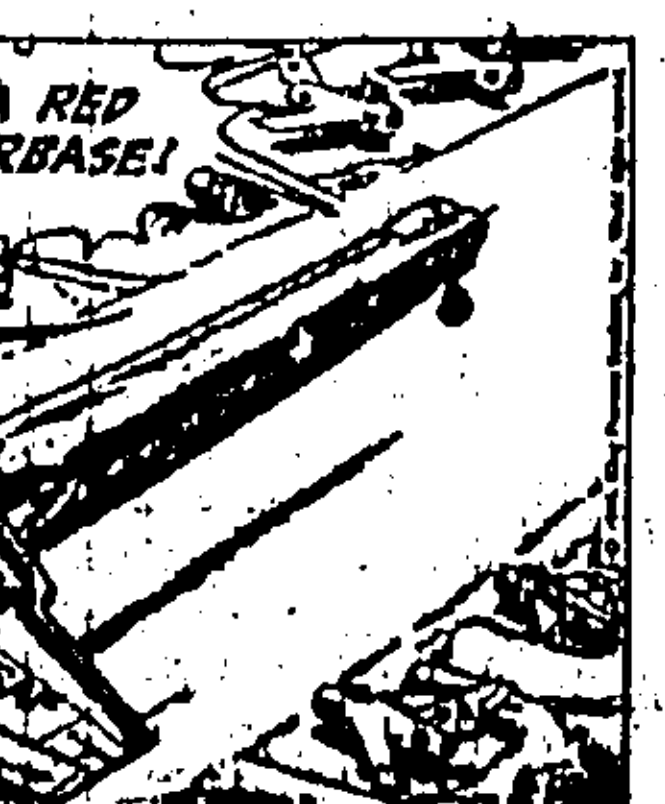
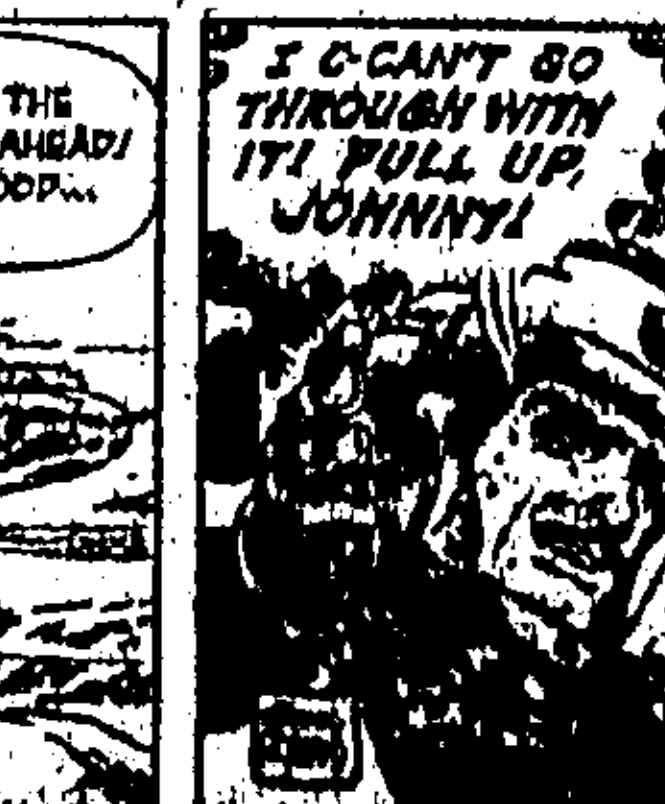
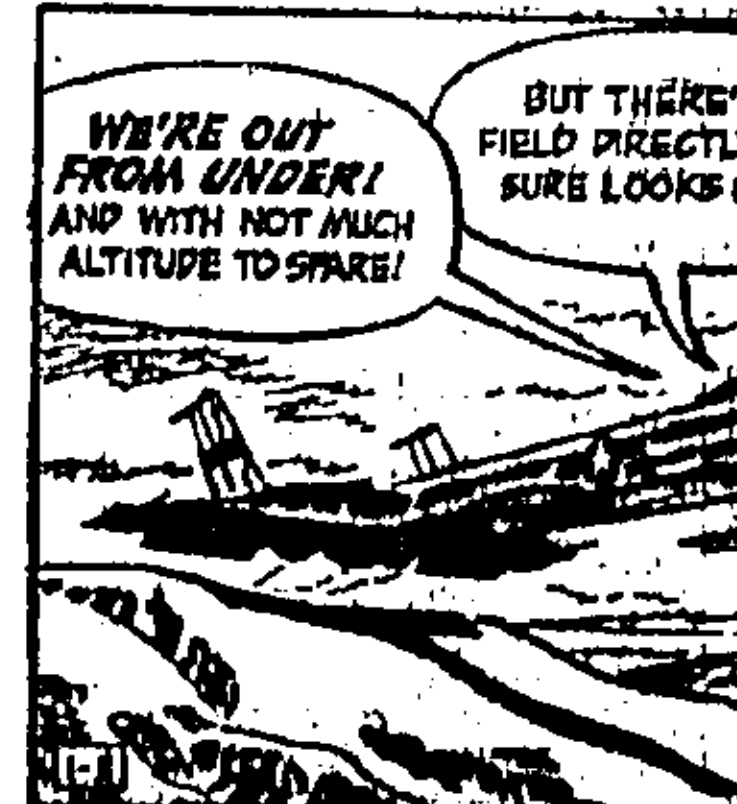
## NANCY

By Ernie Bushmiller



## JOHNNY HAZARD

By Frank Robbins









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# CHINA MAIL

Page 10

TUESDAY, MAY 14, 1957.

**SHEAFFER'S**  
ADMIRAL "SNORKEL" PEN

## JOHN CLARKE'S CASEBOOK

### MABEL IN SPRINGTIME

IN the spring an old lady's fancy turns, if she has spirit, to thoughts of something new to wear, or to have about her. So Mabel's fancy did.

She came into Central London to visit a store at which, in the old days, she had shopped for all her family.

The store is one of those that becomes a kind of habit with a family, so that mothers, put on to daughters, the names of favoured assistants and expect would-be sons-in-law to open accounts there.

#### A HABIT

ON this occasion, Mabel came to shop-gaze rather than to shop, to take pleasure at second-hand in looking at things displayed for people with money to buy.

Mabel had not much more money than her fare from the suburbs, for since her husband died, 10 years ago, her only income has been a £2 widow's pension, and most of that she has given to her daughter, with whom she lives.

Not that Mabel grumbles. She belongs to a generation taught to count its blessings and is grateful for her home and the love that surrounds her.

#### SOMETHING GAY

BUT the store's displays were tempting, and at one counter Mabel succumbed to temptation. She stole a gay, scarlet necktie—just the thing to brighten a faded handbag whose chief property was that it was usually rather empty.

At Bow Street, Mabel pleaded guilty to the theft, and said: "I don't know what came over me. I was just walking round the store, which I knew so well years ago, and then..."

"Is your daughter here?" asked Sir Laurence Dunne.

"No, I didn't let her come, because she's not well, and I want her to get better," Mabel said.

"Well, you mustn't do this again," said Sir Laurence "for if you do it could be very serious, in spite of your age."

"Oh, no, I wouldn't," said Mabel. She was discharged conditionally, and she bustled away into the gay and pretty spring-time.

### China Braces For Year's Calamities

Paris, May 13. China's Ministry of the Interior has issued a nation-wide directive warning the people of destruction from possible natural calamities occurring this year. Radio Peking reported today.

Quoting forecasts made by Peking's Central Meteorological Station, the Ministry pointed out the unusual abundance of rainfall in many parts of the country and if the situation continued, flood might occur in the forthcoming months.

The directive also warned people in typhoon areas along the coastal areas of East and South China to be prepared to cope with typhoons in the summer.

Last year one of the most devastating typhoons in 50 years—"Typhoon Wanda"—struck East China and particularly Shanghai with full fury, causing widespread damage.

### Businessman Charged

Mak Man-sang, 51, of 2 Seymour Road, top floor, a business manager, was this morning charged at Central Magistracy with dealing in tobacco. Not without a licence from the Department of Commerce and Industry, on divers dates between January 1, and May 11, at Room 505-D, Holland House.

Defendant was represented by Mr. I. B. MacCallum, of Wilfordson and Grist. Mr. MacCallum asked for a seven days remand. This was granted by Mr. Hin-shing Lo.

Mak is on Police bail of \$500.

Printed and published by ROBIN GEORGE HUTTON for and on behalf of South China Morning Post Limited at 1-3 Wyndham Street, City of Victoria in the Colony of Hongkong.

### "PRACTICAL JOKE" COSTS \$300

LI Shu-moo, 24, unemployed, who admitted he had put salt into the petrol tank of a private car as a "practical joke" was fined \$100 and ordered to pay \$200 compensation by Mr. Hin-shing Lo at Central Court this morning.

Li pleaded guilty to unlawful and malicious damage to the car which was parked at the junction of Mosque Street on the evening of last Friday. The owner of the car, Mr. Matthew Y. K. Woo, a merchant, told the court he paid more than \$200 for repairs to his car.

Sub-Inspector Scott, prosecuting, said that defendant had asked Mr. Woo not to leave his car in a car park at the junction of Mosque Road. Mr. Woo nevertheless left it there for a while. When he later returned and drove off, the car came to a stop after 50 yards. On examination, he found salt in the petrol tank.

Mr. Scott said this sort of "practical joke" was on the increase in that district. Three such cases of damage to private cars were reported in a week, he said. He asked the court to take a serious view of the matter.

Sentencing defendant, Mr. Lo advised him that even if the depressing hot weather had affected him, he should not give vent to his temper by committing a crime.

In mitigation defendant said Mr. Woo's car was blocking the doorway of his garage. When he refused his request to move, he decided to teach him a lesson.

### Mail Notices

The latest times of posting shown below for unregistered correspondence posted at G.P.O. Hongkong. The latest times for registered mail, in general, are earlier than the G.P.O. times can be ascertained. The latest posting times for registered articles are generally one hour earlier than the times shown below. Particulars regarding parcel mails can be ascertained by enquiry at any post office.

**TUESDAY, MAY 14**  
By Air  
Malaya, Indonesia, Ceylon, 4 p.m.  
Burma, India, Pakistan, 4.30 p.m.  
East Africa, Great Britain, Europe, 6 p.m.  
Japan, 6 p.m.  
London, 6 p.m.  
Sarakaw, N. Korea, 3 p.m.  
Malaya, Aden, 3 p.m.  
Philippines, 4 p.m.  
Singapore, 4 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 15**  
By Air  
Laos, 8 a.m.  
Thailand, Malaya, Indonesia, Australia, New Zealand, 9 a.m.  
Formosa, Ochinawa, 10 a.m.  
Philippines, North Borneo, Nosa, Hawaii, Mexico, Canada, 6 p.m.  
Korea, 6 p.m.

By Surface  
China, People's Republic, 7 a.m.  
Manila, 1 p.m.  
Japan, Canada, 3 p.m.  
Korea, 4 p.m.  
Manila, 6 p.m.

### Radio Hongkong

5.30, Time for Children presented by Elizabeth, 6, Time Signal, Programme Summary, 6.02, "Round the Bend" presented by the Scots Guards on Parade, 7, Spotlights on News by Stephen Foster, 7.30, First Morning presented by Ronald Bennett, 7.30, Weather Report, 8, Time Signal, 8.05, Commentary or Stop Press Item, 8.10, Golden Mile, 8.15, The Story of a Battle, 8.45, The Music Makers, Singing Quartet in E Minor, 9, News, 9.15, Letter from America by Allister Cooke, 9.30, Headlines and his Music, 10.00, Rainbow Announcements, 10.10, The World Symphony Orchestra, 10.15, Western Report, 11, Time Signal, 11.05, Night Music, Steve Allen, 11.15, Piano and Orchestra, 11.30, Close Down.

### REDIFFUSION

3 p.m., Musical Matinee—Reginald Leopold Quintet and the Sidney Torch Strings, 3.30, Partners in Song, 4, The Story of Battle Castle, 4.15, The Time Rendezvous, 4.30, Vocally Yours, 5, Children's Corner—Presented by Annie, 5.30, Progressive Jazz, 6, Torch Tunes—Sidney Torch and his Orchestra, 6.25, Birthday Mailbag, 6.30, B.B.C. Handstand—Featuring the Band of Her Majesty's Cold Stream Guards, conducted by Major Douglas Pope, 7, Personality Parade—Pearl Bailey, 7.30, Summer Evening Serenade—Fifteen Minutes of Light Classical Music, 7.50, May Day, 8, Music Show—Charmaine Music of Lawrence Welk, with Alice Lon, Dick Wingo and the Band, 8.15, Dale with Dreamland—Emile, 8.30, Singers, 8.35, Prelude to Nightingale—Popular Concert Modifiers, 8.45, Close Down.

# HK TRADE UNIONS' COMPLAINT

## Service Depts "Dragging Feet" In Dealing With Wage Claims

### His Farewell Salute



### Air Marshal Fressanges Departs From HK

Air Marshal Sir Francis Fressanges, KBE, CB, Commander-in-Chief, Far East Air Force, and Lady Fressanges, left Hongkong this morning for Clark Field, Manila, after a five-day farewell visit here.

Air Marshal Fressanges will stay at Clark Field for one day to say goodbye to his friends there before returning to Singapore.

He will retire in November after 36 years of service.

Before the distinguished visitors left for Kai Tak airport by RAF launch at 9.30 a.m., they bade farewell to many Service officers and their families who gathered at the Queen's Pier.

Those present at the pier included Air Commodore A. D. Messenger; Col. W. V. Fletcher, Chief of Staff, Land Forces; Commodore G. D. A. Gregory, of HMS; Mr. C. J. de Willoughby, ADC to the Governor of Hongkong; Col. Forest S. Rittgers, of the United States Air Force; Col. William H. Tewell, of the United States Air Force; Sgt. Leader S. Willocks, of Air Headquarters, HK; and Mr. S. E. Faber.

Air Marshal Fressanges arrived at the Queen's Pier at 9.15 a.m. He inspected the Guard of Honour drawn from personnel of 91 (F) Squadron, RAF Regiment (Malaya) on the compound outside the pier.

The band of the Hongkong Regiment was in attendance.

Air Marshal Fressanges then boarded the pier and shook hands with his friends before boarding the RAF launch for Kai Tak.

His plane left Kai Tak at 10 a.m.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### The Mille Miglia Disaster

Sir,—It is I suppose a good sign, in the present state of tension, that you are so starved for headlines, you can find nothing better to sell your paper than a sensational account of an accident in the Mille Miglia which you put on your yesterday's front page in spite of the fact that our last publication, the South China Morning Post, already published a full account of this accident in the morning on its second page where it belonged.

There is of necessity a certain sensationalism bound up with motor racing of all sorts. Accidents will happen especially in a race like the Mille Miglia, where with the volatile Italian temperament it is almost impossible to control crowds and where crowds are placed at supposed vantage points where they would never be allowed in motor races organised in any other countries. This of course is a matter for the Italian authorities. Your sensationalism which goes so far as not even to mention who won or finished in the race and includes in the deaths a policeman who fell off his motorcycle, obscures the fact that it is really like the Mille Miglia, Le Mans, etc., which make motor cars of all makes and from all countries as safe as they are today.

If a car or its parts can stand up to the hammering they receive in such races they can be considered well and truly tried. And when these same parts are used in standard production cars your normal Sunday motorist, who raises his hands in horror when there is talk of motor racing, is protected by the fact that these parts have been tested and tested in such a way as to

## PROTEST ON BEHALF OF 2,000 WORKERS

Civilian staff say Service Departments have been dragging their feet in dealing with outstanding wage adjustments.

Heads of three trade unions in Hongkong, representing 2,000 locally employed personnel working for the Service Departments handed protests to their appropriate authorities yesterday morning.

The trade unions were the War Department Civilian Staff Association which protested to the Deputy Command Secretary HQF; the Local Admiralty Clerks Association which protested to the Commodore Superintendent RN Dockyard; and the Air Ministry Civilian Staff Association which protested to the Air Officer Commanding.

Protests arose from the latest review by the Service Departments of rates of pay for their non-industrial employees, which have been under negotiation for the last six years.

Civilian employees claim that the Service Departments have been dragging their feet in negotiations.

War Department rates were brought in line with those of the Hongkong Government (for Government clerks and employees in the same grades) in 1948. Service Departments also followed the Hongkong Government in pay adjustments of 1951. When Government made further adjustments after this, however, the Service Departments fell behind, and no increases or adjustments have been granted by them since 1951.

Those of the Hongkong Government that was at that time already overdue. They charge that deliberate delaying tactics have been employed. And they claim that any increases granted should be back dated to 1954.

They complain that three years is an unreasonably long time for the "Authority" to spend in considering a reform.

### 5-POINT POLICY

The China Mail learned last night the adjustments now recommended by the Service Departments (the matter on which protest is being made) are in the form of a five-point policy. The points are:

- ★ Consolidation of cost of living allowances into basic pay with the effect of increasing basic pay at the expense of allowances.
- ★ A new method of assessing cost of living allowances.
- ★ No marriage or family allowances.
- ★ A revised grading structure based on two grades of Service Department Clerks, instead of three, and an "efficiency bar" based on OC's recommendations.
- ★ Special increases in certain categories (eg. Special Grade Translations).

The effect of the new recommendations are to give junior unmarried clerks better pay and prospects, but will make very little difference to senior married clerks with families.

A single junior clerk now drawing \$400 per month will get on the new rates, about \$520—or a 30% increase. But a senior married clerk, now drawing \$1,000 per month in pay and allowances, would get an increase of only 3%—\$1,030 per month.

They point out that as 90% of the clerks and personnel involved in the adjustments are married men, the increases will not cost the Service Departments very much money, or even a fraction of the cost of the employees involved.

Instead of following Hongkong Government rates, which have risen considerably above Service Department rates, and also include other benefits such as free medical treatment and pensions, the Service Departments claim to follow a pay policy "broadly in line with the general body of local good employers."

### TOO INDEFINITE

Service Department trade unions claim that this term "good employers" is too indefinite because no particular employers are specified.

They complain at the same time that the terms offered by the Hongkong Government include many benefits other than gross pay, but equally affecting the standard of living of their employees... benefits such as a seasonal bonus, sickness benefit, provident funds, widows' funds, and quarters at concessional rates.

The Trade Unions also protest at the date set for the commencement of new rates of pay—April 1, 1957.

They point out that they have on his letters from the Service Departments warning early in 1954, stating that approval was being sought from the Authorities to bring gross rates of pay broadly in line with

## Air Hostess "Waiting For The Right Man"

Attractive Miss Tamie Kawamoto, one of the five finalists in New York's recent "Miss Spirit Of St Louis" contest for the title of "the world's ideal airline stewardess" said this morning that "I'm still waiting for the right man" when asked whether she intends to get married.

The 24-year-old Japanese brunette, who is the only Japanese entry in the competition which was sponsored by the International Airline Stewards and Stewardesses Association in Chicago in conjunction with Warner Bros' latest movie, "The Spirit of St Louis". The picture will be screened at Queen's Theatre in August.

A veteran stewardess of Japan Air Lines, Miss Kawamoto has been with the airline for five and a half years in the domestic and international services. Last year she was one of the four young Japanese women to tour 17 American and Canadian cities in a Japanese rickshaw on a goodwill mission.

National Airline Stewards and Stewardesses Association. The prize included La Parisienne Crown luggage, a wardrobe from fashion creators of St Louis with costume jewelry and Larvin perfume.

Miss Kawamoto was one of the original stewardesses of Japan Air Lines which now has a corps of 100 stewardesses. Her hobbies include painting, music and swimming. In high school she won the breaststroke championship of Japan. She said that she was now learning French, Spanish and Chinese, with emphasis on the Cantonese dialect.

Mr. W. F. Dugman, adviser to Japan Air Lines, and Mr. Jimmie Wu, manager of Queen's Theatre, were with Miss Kawamoto at this morning's press interview.



MISS KAWAMOTO

A graduate of the Mita High School, Tokyo, Miss Kawamoto, when asked whether she was engaged to be married, replied: "I'm still waiting for the right man. In fact, I'm supposed to be past the age for marriage, but since the end of the war this age was increased to 24."

Miss Kawamoto described New York as "a very exciting city" but she would not like to live there because "of the fast pace of life. 'I like to visit New York and Hongkong for shopping—nylons in New York and slacks in Hongkong'."

She said she adored Chinese gowns and "I was very proud to wear a Chinese gown in New York." In Hongkong she has already ordered 10 Chinese dresses.

### 1,000 Contestants

Miss Kawamoto was among more than 1,000 contestants representing almost all the world's major airlines. She was the second finalist to be elected but the "Miss Spirit of St Louis" award was won by 23-year-old Miss Ann Ametto Borweth, of the American North Central Air Line.

The pretty Japanese stewardess however won a prize presented by Warner Bros and the Inter-

## FIT ENOUGH TO STAND TRIAL

During the trial of two unemployed men on a charge of robbery with aggravation before Mr Justice A. D. Scholes this morning, the first accused, Wong Hon, alias Sir Hon, 20, complained that he was not feeling well and said he was sick.

The hearing was then adjourned for Wong to be medically examined. On resumption, Dr. C. O. Lee, the Prison Medical Officer, who had examined Wong, told the Court that Wong was suffering from a mild attack of bronchitis and that in his opinion Wong was fit to stand trial.

Mr Justice A. D. Scholes then ordered the trial to proceed.

The other accused in the trial was Yu Sze, alias Yu But-son, alias Sir Sze, 26. Both pleaded not guilty to robbing a 63-year-old woman, Wai Sam-mui, of a gold watch, eight gold bangles, eight gold finger rings and \$922 at No. 14, Reclamation Street, first floor, on January 3.

Mr D. E. Greenfield, Crown Counsel, is prosecuting.

Det. PC Lo San testified that on January 23, he went with a detective police sergeant to San Hin Village in the New Territories where hut No. 14, the sergeant arrested the second accused.

DCP Lo said he observed the sergeant and the second accused engaged in a conversation during which the sergeant wrote some in his notebook. The accused then appeared to be writing something and was taken to Kowloon in a vehicle.

Cross-examined, Lo said he was also present when the first accused, Wong Hon, was arrested at the Yau-mat Ferry Wharf.

### NO COMPLAINTS

Chief Insp. John Andrews said an identification parade was held at the Yau-mat Police Station in January. Wong, the first accused, was among eight persons on the parade, all of similar height and build and all dressed in black Chinese clothes. The purpose of the parade was explained to Wong who chose to stand in the fifth position along the line.

The complainant, Wai Sam-mui, was then called in and after observing the line of people on parade went to the fifth position, touched the first accused and said, "That one."

After the parade, the first accused was asked if he had any complaints to make against the conduct of the parade and he replied that he had none.

Hearing is continuing.

## SIDE GLANCES By Galbraith



"This stuff's pretty stupid! How about forming a union and demanding shorter hours?"